

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 12665PC2	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/AU2005/000040	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 January 2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 15 January 2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> G01R 27/22, 27/02		
Applicant THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:

☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

☒ Box No. I Basis of the report

☐ Box No. II Priority

☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

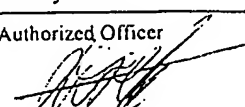
☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited

☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21 March 2005	Date of completion of the report 4 May 2005
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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2005/000040

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1 - 16	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1 - 16	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1 - 16	YES
	Claims	NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

None of the prior art documents cited in the corresponding International Search Report disclose all the features defined in claims 1 - 16 of the present application. Therefore, the invention defined in claims 1 - 16 of the present application is considered to be novel and inventive when compared to the disclosure of the prior art documents cited in the corresponding International Search Report. The invention defined in claims 1 - 16 of the present application is also considered to be industrially applicable in the field of measuring electrical conductivity in low conductive bulk materials.